

Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DPW-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 EUR-25 NEA-10

DRC-01 /175 W

----- 004496

P R 191033Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7233

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 16665

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MILI, VS

SUBJ: GVN SPOKESMAN ON RETALIATION AGAINST COMMUNIST AIR-

FIELDS IN SVN

DURING PM SEPTEMBER 19 GVN PRESS BRIEFING FOLLOWING EXCHANGE
TOOK PLACE BETWEEN GVN SPOKESMAN AND FOREIGN NEWSMEN. ASKED
ABOUT QUESTION OF COMMUNIST AIRFIELDS IN GVN WHICH HAD BEEN
SUBJECT OF GVN SEPTEMBER 10 PROTEST NOTE, SPOKESMAN SAID GVN
COULD NOT "CLOSE ITS EYES" TO THEIR CONTINUED EXISTENCE. WHEN
ASKED WHETHER THIS MEANT GVN WOULD "TAKE ACTION" AGAINST
THEM AND IF SO HOW, SPOKESMAN REPLIED "WOULD YOU TELL YOUR
ENEMY HOW AND WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO STRIKE?" QUERRIED WHETHER
GVN ACTION AGAINST THE AIRFIELDS WOULD CONSTITUTE A CEASE-FIRE
VIOLATION, SPOKESMAN SAID "IF WORDS FAIL, WE WILL USE THE SWORD."
HE ASSERTED THAT THE PARIS AGREEMENT MUST BE LIVED UP TO BY
BOTH SIDES EQUALLY. GVN ACTION AGAINST THE AIRFIELDS WOULD BE
IN LEGITIMATE SELF-DEFENSE, HE CONCLUDED.

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APPLING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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